BARBARIAN COMICS

BARBARIAN COMICS 3

BARBARIAN COMICS #3 ©1974 BOB SIDEBOTTOM

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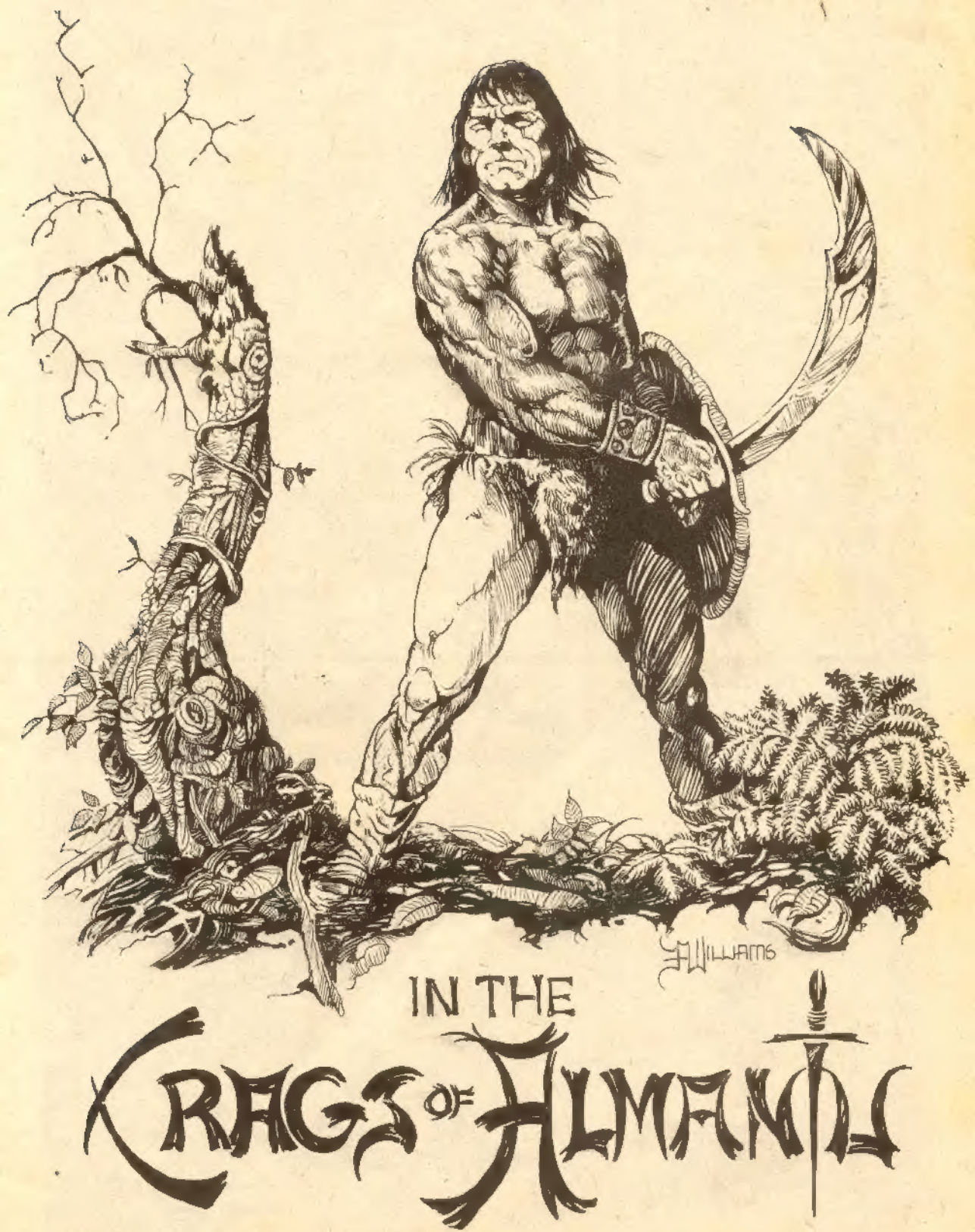
F.WILLIAMS
IN THE
CRAGS OF ALMANTH

WEARY FROM BATTLE WITH CURVED SWORD AND SHIELD, A BARBARIAN OF MANY BATTLES CLIMBS TOWARD THE ONLY CITY WITHIN DAYS. A HORDE OF SAVAGES BEHIND HIM, AND RUMORS OF A RICH ANCIENT CIVILIZATION AT THE PEAKS, LEAD HIM TO A CITY WHOSE JAGGED ROCKS BELOW ITS PERIMETER, HOLD LEGENDS OF GRISLY BEINGS AND WINGED DEMONS---

ALMANTU

HE PAUSES IN HIS JOURNEY TO LISTEN TO THE FOREST...

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE FRENZIED BESTIAL SCREAMS RANG ONCE MORE THRU HIS SKULL!

REASON, AS WELL AS MERCY ARE PASSING THINGS. HE PLUNGES TOWARD THE SCREAMS.

IT WAS THE CAVE PEOPLE OF LECT! THEY'D CAPTURED A WHITE GIRL!!

SKETCHES IN INK © 1975 BY JOHN WILLIAMS

HE POUNCED UPON THE STARTLED APEMEN!
SEVERAL BODIES LAY CLEFT AND TORN BEFORE THEY GRUNTED THEIR RETREAT!
UNGH
KUNK
WE MUST MAKE HASTE. THEY GO FOR MORE OF THEIR KIND. ALREADY A PACK OF THESE DOGS WERE ON MY HEELS WHEN I HEARD YOUR SCREAMS! ALL EAGER TO HAVE MY HEAD AT THE END OF A SPEAR!
THE APEMEN WILL NOT FOLLOW US INTO THESE ROCKS, IT WILL BE DARK SOON--HURRY!
THEIR SPEAR THROWS WON'T REACH US HERE. I HAVE BEEN FIGHTING WITH THE VILLAGERS IN THE HILLS AGAINST THE LECTANS. FOR NEARLY TWO DAYS. THEIR NUMBERS OVERCAME US TODAY AND ALL WERE SLAUGHTERED EXCEPT A FEW. BUT YOU ARE NOT OF THE VILLAGE!
2

NO.. I..I.. AM OF.. ALMANTU.
THEN WHAT DO YOU AMONG THESE HILLS? I'VE HEARD TALES OF YOUR CITY, AND ITS OWN SET OF DEMONS THAT NOTCH THESE CRAGS!
IT HAS BEEN EONS SINCE WE HAVE WON THE PLATEAU FROM THE DEMONS. WE DROVE THEM TO THE ROCKS BELOW AND NEVER DID THEY ENTER OUR CITY, BUT PREYED ON THOSE OF THE HILLS. AFTER HUNDREDS OF YEARS THEY HAVE RETURNED TO KILL AND TORTURE OUR PEOPLE WEAKENED BY RICHES. ONLY THE SLAVES REMAIN STRONG TO FIGHT, AND THEY ARE AFRAID THE WINGED DEVILS PLANT THEIR SEED IN OUR WOMEN, WHO DIE GIVING BIRTH TO THE EVIL OFFSPRING AFTER ONLY DAYS OF FATNESS. MOST KILL THEMSELVES FIRST. IT WAS SUCH A DEMON THAT I HAD ESCAPED FROM BEFORE THE LECTANS GOT ME.
IF THESE DEVILS ARE MADE OF FLESH, THEY CAN BE KILLED BY SWORD!
THEY COME ONLY AT NIGHT AND DWELL IN THESE CLIFFS BY DAY. WE CANNOT LAST MUCH LONGER. ALL THE CITY IS MAD WITH FEAR.
WE WILL STAY HERE TONIGHT. I WILL WATCH, WHILE YOU SLEEP. AT DAWN WE'LL GO TO YOUR CITY. DAMN ANY WINGED FIENDS..
I WOULD RATHER DIE THAN BE CAUGHT BY ONE AGAIN.. LET ME STAY WITH YOU. IT WILL BE GOOD TO FEEL THE ARMS OF A MAN. PLEASE... HOLD ME!
AS MOONLITE SHOWERS THE CLIFFTOP, THE NIGHT GROWS LONG.
AS DAWN NEARS A TIRED BARBARIAN DOZES FOR AN INSTANT.. UNAWARE..
IN THE WAVERING BLACKNESS BEFORE THE TWILIGHT...
SHE'S GONE!!
3

THE PARALYZING HORROR THAT HUNG IN THE SOUNDLESS NIGHT IN THE DREAMS OF THE GIRL, WERE NOW AS REAL AS THE FIENDISH NIGHTMARE THAT CROUCHED BEFORE HER; ITS IMPISH FINGERS RUBBING NERVOUSLY, HEAD LURCHING FORWARD. THE BRISTLY HAIR ON ITS BACK BARELY MOVED AT THE COLD WIND NOW BLOWING THROUGH THE CRAGS. ITS BODY PULSED WITH AN EVIL STRENGTH AND THE RED EYES BURNED WITH AN UNEARTHLY NOCTURNAL INTELLIGENCE ---

AS QUICKLY AS HE SAW... HE REACTED...
AT THE FIRST RAYS OF MORNING LIGHT THE FULL MOON FADES AND THREE VULTURE-LIKE SILOUETTES DISAPEAR INTO THE ROCKS ABOVE!
LOOK!
NO BREED OF BAT-BEINGS WILL STOP US. LET THEM HIDE IN THEIR BURROWS! WE GO TO YOUR CITY!
DON'T FALL NOW! WE'RE ALMOST THERE!
I-I-THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING-
THIS IS YOUR CITY, BUT I SEE NO PEOPLE! THE WHOLE PLACE APPEARS DEAD!
THE PEOPLE REST IN THE DAY - WE CANNOT SLEEP AT NIGHT FOR THE ATTACKS...
THOSE WHO SURVIVE THE NIGHT MEET IN THE MARKET PLACE AHEAD.
HAVE YOUR MEN BUILT A DEFENCE AT ALL?
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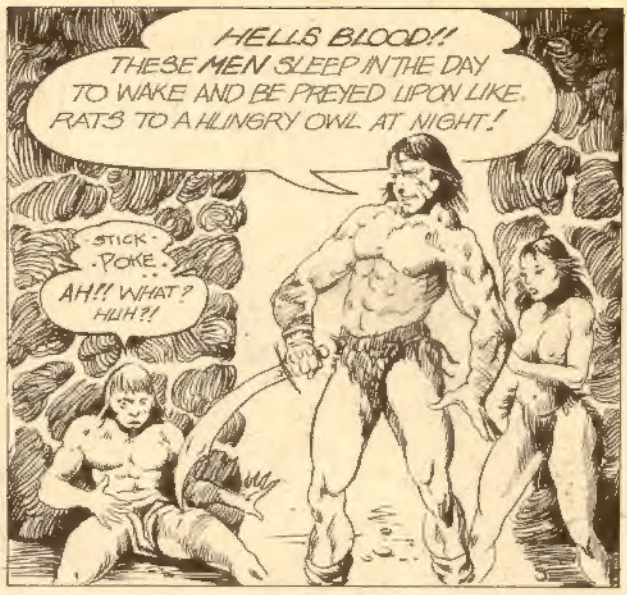
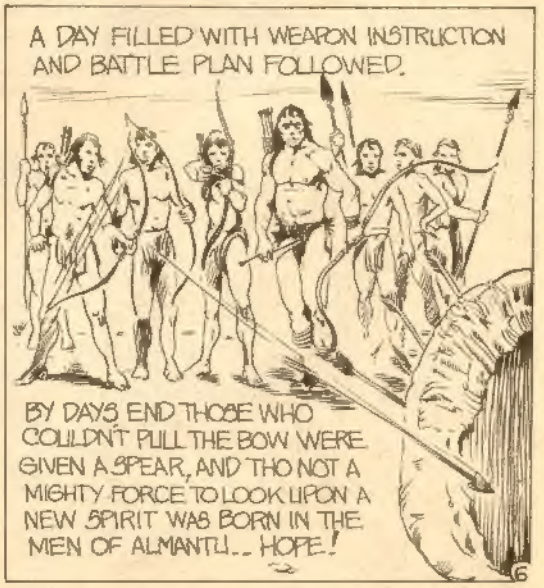
NONE - OUR MEN HANDLE A SWORD AND SPEAR SO POORLY, WE OFTEN USE THE TOOLS OF THE FIELD AGAINST THEM!


HELLS BLOOD!! THESE MEN SLEEP IN THE DAY TO WAKE AND BE PREYED UPON LIKE RATS TO A HUNGRY OWL AT NIGHT!
STICK - POKE...
AH!! WHAT? HUH?!

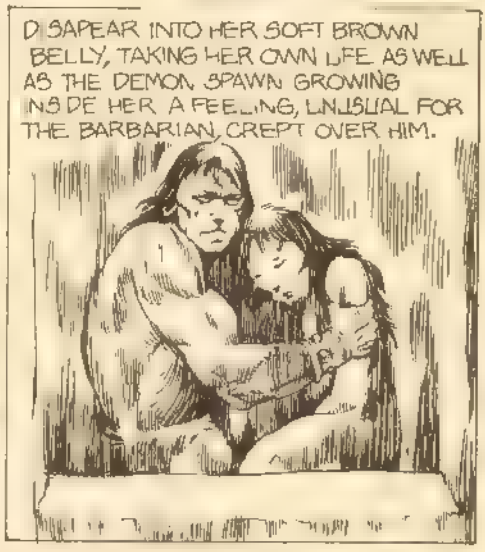
GO! RAISE YOUR MEN! TELL THEM A NEW ARMY IS BEING FORMED. ANY MAN FOUND SLEEPING WILL BE... GUTTED BEFORE HE AWAKENS!

IS THERE A WEAPONRY IN THE CITY?
THERE IS AN OLD ONE IN THE ROYAL PALACE. IT HASN'T BEEN USED IN YEARS..

IN THE PALACE:
ENOUGH WEAPONS HERE... NOW TO FIND ENOUGH WARRIORS TO USE THEM... FAST!


A DAY FILLED WITH WEAPON INSTRUCTION AND BATTLE PLAN FOLLOWED.
BY DAYS END THOSE WHO COULDN'T PULL THE BOW WERE GIVEN A SPEAR, AND THO NOT A MIGHTY FORCE TO LOOK UPON A NEW SPIRIT WAS BORN IN THE MEN OF ALMANTU... HOPE!

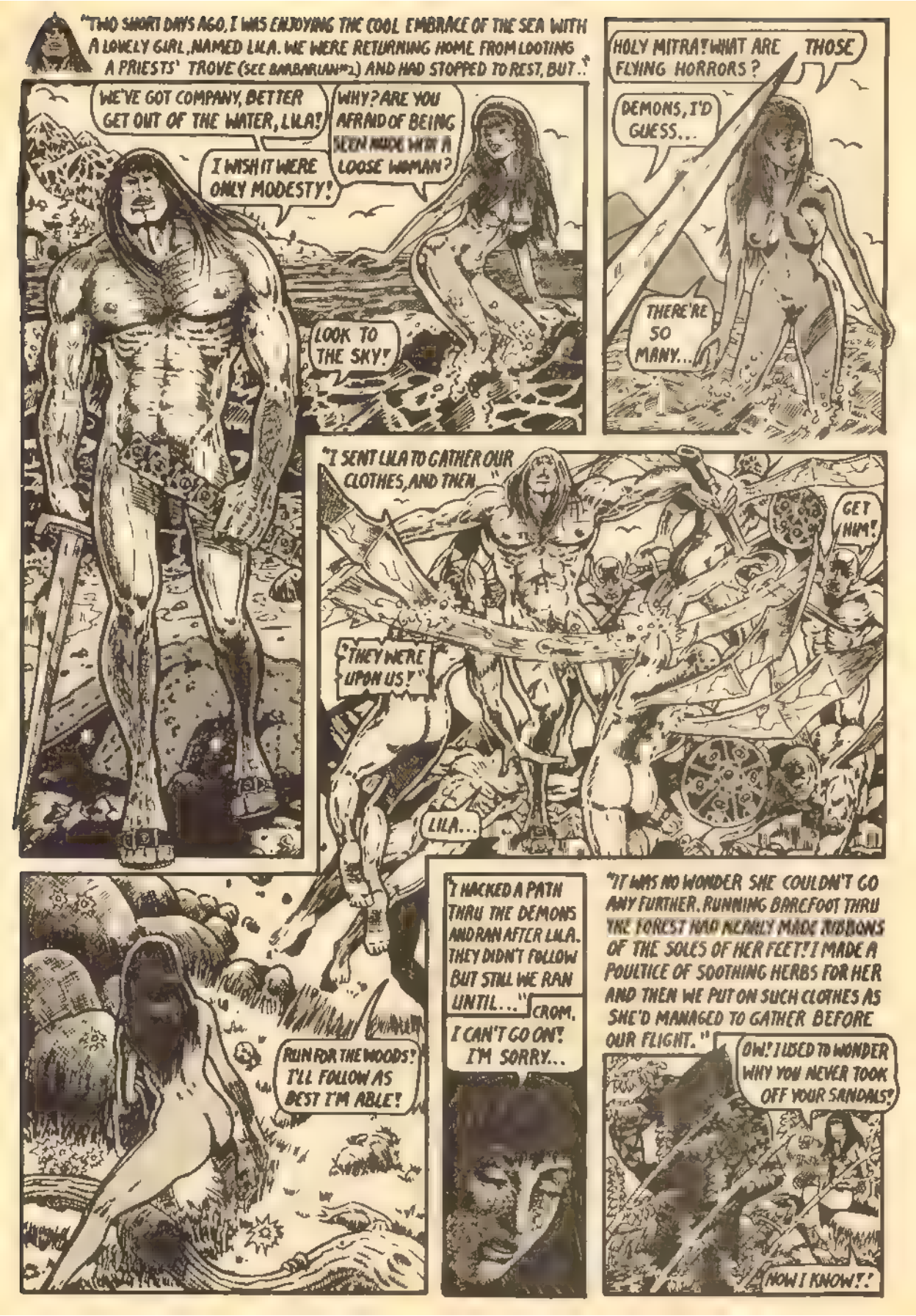
LOCK ALL WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN THE CELLARS! GIVE THEM FOOD AND DRINK! HURRY NOW, IT IS ALMOST DARK! LIGHT THE TORCHES!
TONIGHT WILL END THIS HELL FOR GOOD! GO MAKE SURE YOU AND THE OTHER WOMEN STAY PUT. THERE ARE WEAPONS IF YOU NEED THEM. DON'T BE AFRAID -
MUST I GO?
AN INSTANT LATER THE MOONLIT SKY CAME ALIVE WITH THRASHING LEATHER WINGS..
FURY REPLACED SKILL AND SURVIVAL BECAME A FETISH IN THE MEN OF ALMANTU...
THE BESTIAL INSTINCT OF THE DEMONS DROVE THEM IN FLOCKS TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF THE READIED ARMY BELOW. THE BATTLE WAS STEADILY BEING WON TO THE SIDE OF ALMANTU WHEN A HORRIFYING ALARM SOUNDED IN THE COLD NIGHT AIR...
CHAOTIC SWIRLS OF ARROWS AND SPEARS RAINED UPWARD AT THE MOCKING INTRUDERS.
THE CELLARS!! THE CELLARS ARE OPEN!!
SOME COULD NOT BE SAVED FROM THE SLOBBERING JOWLS AND HIDEOUS GROPINGS ..AND DIED..
BEFORE THE DOORS COULD BE CLOSED.
AN HOUR BEFORE DAWN, THE NIGHT LONG RAGE NEARED AN END... FROM A STONE TOWER THERE ECHOED A FAMILIAR SCREAM..
EEEEEEEEEEEEE
FAMILIAR.. TO THE BARBARIAN!!


DISAPEAR INTO HER SOFT BROWN BELLY, TAKING HER OWN LFE AS WELL AS THE DEMON SPAWN GROWING INSDE HER A FEE..NG, UNUSUAL FOR THE BARBARIAN, CREPT OVER HIM.

AS THE MORNING SUN TOUCHES THE NEW DAY, ONCE MORE THE PEOPLE OF ALMANTU WANDER FREELY THRU THEIR CITY. MANY HARD DAYS LAY AHEAD BEGINING LIFE ANEW. THE PEOPLE NOW KNOW THAT TO SURVIVE THEY MUST WORK AND SOMETIMES EVEN FIGHT! TO THE BARBARIAN THESE THINGS ARE HIS NATURE. YESTERDAY HAS BEEN WON, TODAY IS HERE TO BE CONFRONTED, AND ONCE MORE A BATTLE WEARY BARBARIAN STRIKES OUT TO MEET THAT DAY.

DAMN LICE! I'VE HAD THEM EVER SINCE I WAS LOCKED IN THAT LORD'S VAULT!
SCRITCH!
SILENCE, OLD MAN...
LOOK!
PLINK!
PLINK!
I'M GONNA GET WHO-EVER THREW THAT!
MINUTES LATER...
MITRA!
THE BOY'S HEAD!
MURDERER, COWER BEFORE ME...
FOR MEN CALL ME AMRA!
AMRA? THAT IS ODD...
FOR I...
I CALL YOU DEAD!
THAT'LL TEACH THAT BASTARD WHO'S THE BADDEST BARBARIAN OF THEM ALL!
NOW, I'VE BUSINESS INSIDE WITH THE LADY WHOSE DOOR HE WAS GUARDING!

WHOEVER YOU ARE, YOU CAN LEAVE NOW. I'VE NO DESIRE TO TALK...
YOU'VE NO DESIRE TO TALK ?
NOW THAT'S REALLY A TRUE PITY...
BECAUSE I NEED TO TALK TO YOU!
AND WHEN MY NEEDS ARE DENIED I GET UPSET- EVEN VIOLENT!
SOME TIME LATER.
IT'S BEEN HOURS AND YOU HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHY YOU'VE ABDUCTED ME!
I SUPPOSE I OWE YOU THAT MUCH. THE STORY IS LONG, BUT OUR ROAD IS TOO, SO...


"TWO SHORT DAYS AGO, I WAS ENJOYING THE COOL EMBRACE OF THE SEA WITH A LOVELY GIRL, NAMED LILA. WE WERE RETURNING HOME FROM LOOTING A PRIESTS' TROVE (SEE BARBARIAN #1) AND HAD STOPPED TO REST, BUT..."
WE'VE GOT COMPANY, BETTER GET OUT OF THE WATER, LILA!
I WISH IT WERE ONLY MODESTY!
WHY? ARE YOU AFRAID OF BEING SEEN NUDE WITH A LOOSE WOMAN?
LOOK TO THE SKY!
HOLY MITRA! WHAT ARE THOSE FLYING HORRORS?
DEMONS, I'D GUESS...
THERE'RE SO MANY...
"I SENT LILA TO GATHER OUR CLOTHES, AND THEN..."
GET HIM!
"THEY WERE UPON US!"
LILA...
RUN FOR THE WOODS! I'LL FOLLOW AS BEST I'M ABLE!
"I HACKED A PATH THRU THE DEMONS AND RAN AFTER LILA. THEY DIDN'T FOLLOW BUT STILL WE RAN UNTIL..."
CROM.
I CAN'T GO ON! I'M SORRY...
"IT WAS NO WONDER SHE COULDN'T GO ANY FURTHER. RUNNING BAREFOOT THRU THE FOREST HAD NEARLY MADE RIBBONS OF THE SOLES OF HER FEET! I MADE A POULTICE OF SOOTHING HERBS FOR HER AND THEN WE PUT ON SUCH CLOTHES AS SHE'D MANAGED TO GATHER BEFORE OUR FLIGHT."
OW! I USED TO WONDER WHY YOU NEVER TOOK OFF YOUR SANDALS!
NOW I KNOW!!

ONE NIGHT MY FATHER TOLD ME THAT I'D BEEN CONCEIVED WHILE HE WAS WEARING SANDALS. HE BELIEVED "A WISE THIEF ALWAYS WEARS SANDALS TO BE READY FOR FLIGHT OR FIGHT." TWO NIGHTS LATER HE WAS KILLED, STARK NAKED IN A WHORE'S BED. SEEMS HE FORGOT TO KEEP HIS SANDALS ON AND COULDN'T RUN FAST ENOUGH!
HOW TOUCHING!
"I HAD A STRANGE VISION...."
WE ARE DRYADS AND WE'LL HELP YOU. BUT FIRST...
YOU MUST AID US. THE MAN WHO DOWNED YOU HAS A LADY. CAPTURE HER FOR US...
TO FIND HER, RIDE ONE DAY EAST AND LOOK FOR A DOOR WITH TWO GAURDS!
SO VERY TOUCHING THAT I WON'T KILL YOU NOW. THIS WILL ONLY MAKE YOU SLEEP FOR A FEW HOURS!
BLAM!
WHEN WE HAVE HER, YOU WILL HAVE THE HELP YOU NEED.
"I FELT A STING ON MY NECK AND BECAME SO WEAK THAT I FELL. MY MYSTERIOUS FOE STOOD OVER ME..."
LISTEN, BARBARIAN, I'VE ALREADY TAKEN YOUR GOLD FROM YOUR HORSES ON THE BEACH, AND NOW I'M TAKING YOUR WOMAN! DON'T FOLLOW ME AND FORCE ME TO TAKE YOUR LIFE!
CROM!
LILA
"THE DRYADS WERE GONE WHEN I WOKE, BUT I KNEW WHAT TO DO. I MADE THE RIDE TO THE EAST AND FOUND THE DOOR WITH TWO GAURDS. THE REST YOU KNOW..."
YES, I KNOW THE REST, AND NOW THAT I UNDERSTAND...
OUR WAYS SHALL PART. I'LL GO TO MY SISTERS AND THEN WE'LL SEND YOU TO THE ONE YOU SEEK - BARON JONN!
BUT I THOUGHT..
"THEN THERE WAS ONLY BLACKNESS."
THAT I WAS JONN'S MISTRESS? HARDLY. THOSE GAURDS YOU SLEW WEREN'T THERE TO PROTECT ME, THEY WERE TO INSURE I DIDN'T ESCAPE TO THE FOREST! ONCE I'M AMIDST THE TREES, MY DRYAD'S POWERS RETURN!
FAREWELL, CROM!

THE DRYAD VANISHES AND CROM IS SUDDENLY SWEPT INTO A VORTEX OF SPACE AND TIME...
BE READY! YOU'RE NEARLY THERE!
ORM!
HOLD, ROGUE, AND FACE A WORTHIER FOE!
CROM!
YOU!
KILL HIM, DEMONS!
NO...
WE FOUGHT THIS ONE BEFORE AND HE IS A DEADLY FOE. WE LEAVE YOU TO YOUR BATTLE. WHEN WE RETURN THE VICTOR SHALL BE OUR MASTER!
MOMENTS LATER...
IT'S OVER!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS, LILA? WITH THE DEMONS TO HELP US, WE CAN BE THE BARON AND BARONESS OF THIS REGION - IF YOU ARE WILLING...
YES - I'M EVEN USED TO THE CREEK OF YOUR SANDALS WHEN WE'RE MAKING LOVE!
TELL YOU WHAT - FIND SOME SALVE FOR MY LASH WOUNDS AND WE CAN CELEBRATE THIS PROPERLY...
CONSIDER IT DONE!
CLICK
CROM?

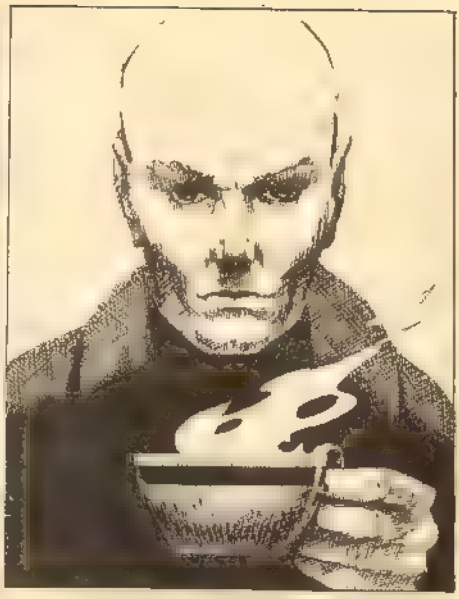
FOR LILA

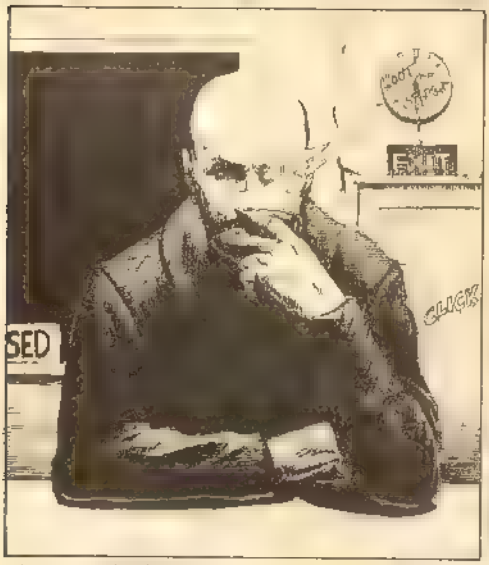
SCRIPT AND GRAPHICS BY W.A.MELUGNIOT

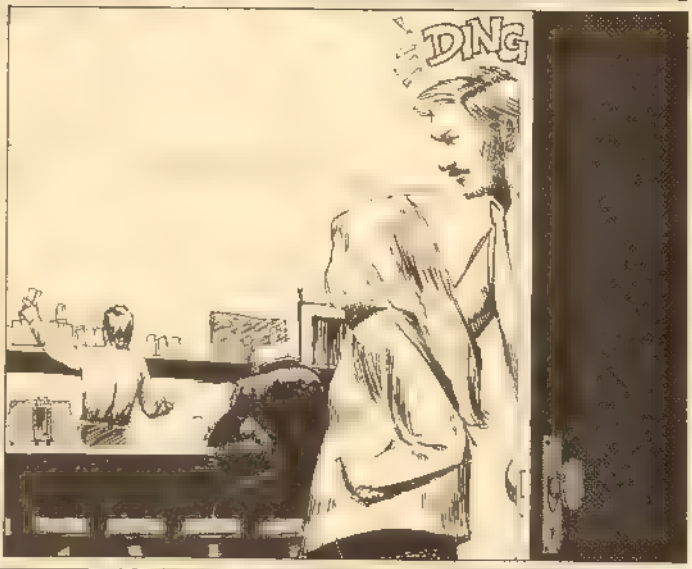
THE END

IN A SEEDY COFFEE SHOP THE KIND YOU ALWAYS SEE ON THE OUTSKIRTS AND BACK ROADS OF SMALL TOWNS IN THE SOUTHWEST, A MAN SITS AND DRINKS SLOWLY FROM HIS CUP OF COFFEE. AND A STRANGE MAN HE IS — BALD SILENT AND DARK WITH ODDLY STIFF FEATURES THAT TELL LITTLE OF HIS THOUGHTS AND NOTHING OF HIS AGE. HE SITS. HIS MIND GOES BACK TO THAT DAY OF OVER THREE YEARS AGO... WHEN THIS PLACE SUDDENLY BE

THERE







WELL WELL ... LOOK'T HERE MY GUYS? F IT AINT THE ORIGINAL PAIR OF OL FASHIONED LOVE BIRDS? JEEZ?
I SAW THE SIGN ON YOUR CAR: "JUST MARRIED!" HAW! I WANNA KNOW HOW WE CAN BUDDYS O GANG GETS T CELEBRATE A WED DING?? ITS ONLY BE N COURTEOUS N A LOTTA FUN...
WE ALL GET TO BALL THE BRIDE!?! HAHAHAHA
WHADDAYA SAY, PUNK? HOW 'BOUT A TASTE OF THE OLD LADY?
NOW THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD THING, BABY! LOOKS GOOD FROM HERE!
WANNA ORDER ANYTHING, JH.. MISTER??
NO THANKS... WE'RE LEAVING!
EXIT
LET'S GO, ANN.

HEY! WHA -? THE THAT ASS WALKED OUT ON US? WE GONNA LET HIM GET AWAY WITH THAT??
OUGHTTA KICK HIS GODDAM ASS FOR THAT N'TEACH THE PUNK SOME SHIT SENSE MANNERS!!?
HELL, NO!
WASTE THE MOTHER!
SLAM!
WHEN WE GONNA MEET UP N' BLDDY?
BOUT TWO HOURS FROM NOW..
THAT'D LEAVE US ENOUGHTIME TO DO THE JOB ON THE THIS PUNKS OLD LADY--- AFTER WE "EDUCATE" HIM!!?
HA! HE WON'T BE'N ANY CONDITION TO COMPLAIN! HA HA!
WE DON'T LIKE ASSHOLES WHAT WALK OUT ON A CONVERSATION WITH US...
YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT, TOO! GODDAM SON OF A BITCH!!
SO WE THOUGHT WE'D BE NICE ENOUGH TO GIVE YA A LITTLE PRIVATE LESSON IN MANNERS ASSHOLE...
START N' WITH A LITTLE O
THIS!

GET IN YOUR VW AND FLEE OUT OF HERE WHILE YOU STILL CAN!!
QUICK! DO AS I SAY!
CLICK!
SNAP
OMIGOD! WHAT CAN WE DO?
JUST WHAT THE GUY SAID...
OKAY... I KNOW YOU ASSHOLES ARE IN BUDDY'S GANG... WHERE IS HE??
AND GET THE HELL OUT OF THIS PLACE!
KRUU

SLAP!
AIEE!
FRAK!
GASP!
CRUSH!
SMAK
NOW DAMMIT! WHERE THE HELL IS BLUDD?!
HEY!?
5

WHAM!
OKAY... NOW WHERE'S BUDDY?
A-AT T-T-THE PLACE.. OUR MEETIN' PLACE... EDDIES B-B-BAR?.. HONEST?
CRAK!
SO THIS IS IT, THEN? AFTER ALL THESE MANY MONTHS..
..SEARCHING...
HIS MIND GOES BACK - YEARS AGO... THERE, THE SAME DONUT SHOP, WHERE HE AND HIS SISTER WERE SET
UPON BY A GANG OF HOODS, HE TO BE BEATEN NEARLY TO DEATH & H.S HAIR SET AFIRE; SHE TO BE TAKEN AWAY, GANG RAPED AND K.LLED, BUT HE SURVIVED, CL.NGING TO THE DES PERATE HOPE OF SOMEDAY OBTAIN-ING JUSTICE FROM THE K..ERS. HE'D
HEY? WHAT...?
SO LONG PUNK!
BUT ONE CLUE: THE NAME OF THEIR LEADER... "BUDDY"!!
HEY BUDDY! LETS GRAB THE CHICK 'N GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE!!
HA HA HA HA
BUT NOW... THE TIME OF RETRIBUTION IS AT HAND!!

EDDIE'S
EDDIE'S JOYNT
HMM..5 MINUTES TO CLOSING TIME...
PRECISELY 17 MINUTES LATER...
HEY! BUDDY! WE GOTTA GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE! I DONT THINK THAT GUY'S GONNA LIVE AFTER WHAT WE...
WERE LEAVIN' AINT WE? NOW SHADDUP! SERJES THE ASSHOLE RIGHT FER TRYIN' TO MAKE US GIT WHEN WE DONT WANNA!
KICKED HIS ASS SUMPTIN' AWFUL!
NO MI
ALLO
HEY!! WHAT THE FUCK..? SOMEBODY TRASHED MY BIKE!!
ALL OF OURS!! WHO...?
HIM!
HERE'S A LITTLE SOMETHING I OWE YOU, BUDDY...!
YAAIEE!
WHEE!
POP!

HELP! OMIGOD! MY LEGS! (SOB) I'M CRIPPLED!
AAAARGH!
WHAT? YOU DON'T REMEMBER WHO I
HOW DO YOU
BUDDY??
THE LONE FIGURE TURNS..
..AND WALKS AWAY..TO WHAT?? PERHAPS TOWARDS A NEW BEGINNING, A NEW LIFE...
THE END!

BLAM!
...FRIEND IN NEED...
JOE?
HEY, WAKE UP, JOE...!

COME ON, JOE ... WAKE UP! IT'S ME!
IT'S ME... SAM!
THOUGHT FOR A MOMENT THERE YOU WEREN'T GONNA SNAP OUT OF IT, JOE! WELCOME BACK, PAL!
.... ! THE SHIP! GOD WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SHIP?!
OH, GOD.
HEY, TAKE IT EASY, JOE.. YOU STILL GOT ME!
YOU - YOU'RE NOT REAL... MY MIND... ALL IN MY MIND....
HEY, WHAT KINDA TALK IS THAT? YOU REMEMBER YOUR OLD PAL SAM!
SAM?... NO.. I MEAN, YEAH... THINK SO... KINDA HAZY... YEAH... YEAH, SURE... SAM...
WELL, THAT'S BETTER! GOT TO HANG ON, PAL...
... THAT WAS QUITE A BLAST BACK THERE! GOOD THING YOU HAD YOUR SUIT ON... NOW YOU CAN JUST SIT BACK AND WAIT TO BE PICKED UP.
WHAT YOU TRYING TO FEED ME, SAM? ONLY GOT TWO MORE HOURS' WORTH OF AIR...
... I'M GONNA DIE, SAM!

DIE? CUT THE CRAP, JOE! YOU GOT A COZY SPACESUIT AND A GOOD SIGNAL BEACON... WHAT MORE YOU NEED? DON'T TALK CRAZY!
CRAZY! YEAH... THAT'S WHAT'LL HAPPEN FIRST, I'LL GO NUTS! HA HA... "RAVING SPACEMAN AND LIZARD IN DEADMAN'S ORBIT"! HA HA...
SAM!...
E-KCA
SAM! LOOK AT IT, SAM! A LIFEBOAT! A BIG BEAUTIFUL GODDAMN LIFEBOAT! MUSTA BEEN THROWN FROM THE SHIP!...
LOOK AT IT, SAM! WE'RE GONNA WAIT IN STYLE, ME AND YOU!
TAKE IT EASY, JOE, DON'T LOSE YOUR GRIP...
AND IT'S GOT AIR TANKS TOO, SAM, LOOK AT 'EM! HA HAAA TALK ABOUT YOUR MANNA FROM HEAVEN!
JOE... IT ISN'T REAL, JOE..
SHOULDN'TA WASTED THAT ENERGY, JOE...
I'M GOING NUTS SAM... TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T MAKE IT...
NEVER SEE HOME... EARTH...
...OR JOANNA... NEVER SEE JOANNA...
JOANNA? NOW THIS SOUNDS INTERESTING! SO YOU GOT A GIRL, EH?

SHE AS HOMELY AS YOU ARE, JOE, I'LL STICK FO WEARDS.

UP YOURS, SAM!

WHAT DO YOU KNOW? YOU NEVER SEEN HER.

SO GO ON, JOE, TELL ME ABOUT HER.

HOW'D IT GO? YEAH... HER' HAIR THE GOLDEN RAYS OF DAWN, HER EYES THE LAST OF THE STARS...'

THAT SOUNDS KINDA FUNNY COMING FROM YOU, JOE...

...I NEVER QUITE THOUGHT OF YOU AS A POET.

I'M NOT! THAT WAS PART OF THIS POEM I WROTE HER. IT WAS SO BAD, WE THREW IT AWAY.

BUT SHE WAS LIKE THAT, Y'KNOW, SHE MADE YOU DO FUNNY THINGS LIKE TRYING TO WRITE POEMS.

WHY YOU SAY 'WAS', JOE? WHEN'D YOU SEE HER THE LAST TIME?

JUST BEFORE I SHIPPED OUT. JUST LIKE IN A MOVIE, YOU KNOW, WE DID THE WHOLE BIT, THE CANDLE LIGHT DINNER AND THE MOONLIGHT DRIVE; LIKE I SAID, FUNNY THINGS...AND YOU KNOW WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT?

HUH-UH, WHAT?

I DON'T REMEMBER! ISN'T THAT RICH? YOU'D THINK I'D REMEMBER EVERY LAST LITTLE THING, HUH, ESPECIALLY CONSIDERING...

...CONSIDERING I'LL NEVER SEE HER AGAIN...

I DUNNO, JOE, MAYBE A GUY ONLY REMEMBERS THE THINGS THAT'RE REALLY IMPORTANT, HUH?

YEAH... YEAH, REALLY IMPORTANT...

I DO REMEMBER THE LAST THING SHE EVER SAID, YOU KNOW WHAT SHE TOLD ME, SAM?

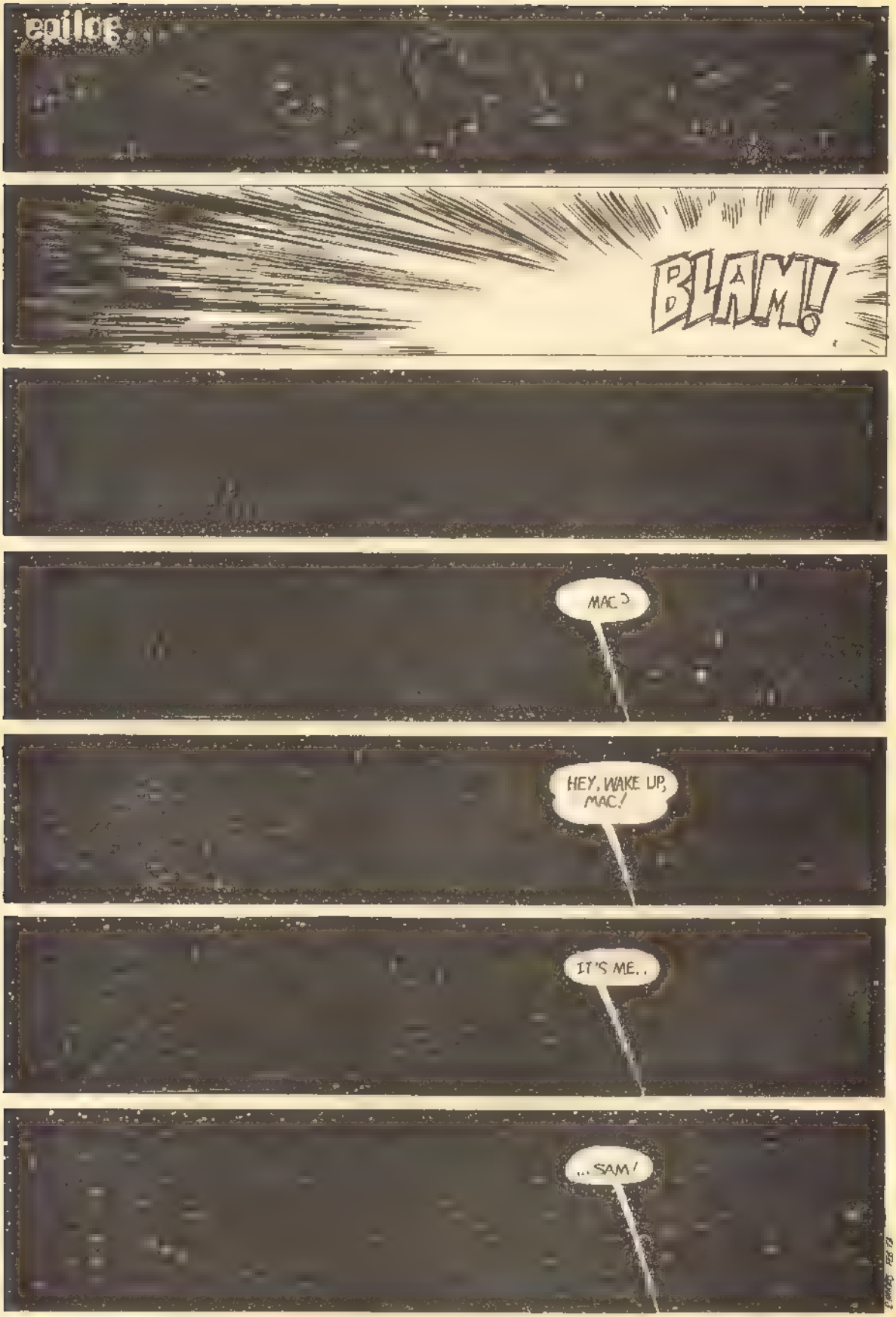
SHE SAID... 'SEE YOU WHEN YOU GET BACK.'

THAT WAS A STUPID THING TO SAY... WASN'T IT, SAM?

MORNIN,' PAL! RISE AND SHINE! BIG DAY AHEAD! SAY, WE...
SHUT UP, SAM!...
DON'T YOU HEAR IT?
HEAR WHAT?
IT'S THE BUZZER, SAM, THE WARNING BUZZER! ONLY GOT TWO MORE MINUTES OF AIR, SAM!...
YOU'RE HEARING THINGS, JOE!
NO I'M NOT!... LOOK AT THE GAUGE! SEE? IT SAYS 'EMPTY' TOO!
SO YOU'RE SEEING THINGS TOO.
CLICK
SAM!
CAN'T YOU SEE, SAM, IT'S ALL OVER! I GOT NO MORE AIR, SAM!
SO WHAT? WHO NEEDS AIR?
US LIZARDS DON'T NEED IT! WHY SHOULD YOU? YOU BEEN OUT HERE LONG ENOUGH NOT TO NEED AIR!
YOU'RE... CRAZY, SAM...
C'MON, JOE. BREATHE... JUST LIKE ME! YOU DON'T NEED AIR... JUST BREATHE!
...BREATHE...
THAT'S IT! SEE, IT'S EASY! NOW TELL ME MORE ABOUT EARTH, JOE.
KINDA... HAZY... SAM... CAN'T... REMEMBER... STRAIGHT...
SURE YOU CAN, JOE! NOTHIN' WRONG WITH YOU! JUST KEEP BREATHING, PAL! WHY DON'TCHA TELL ME ABOUT YOUR MOTHER? YOU GOT A MOTHER, DON'T YOU?
HA HA... SURE...
...SURE, SAM, I GOT A MOTHER...

RESCUE
E-MSH
15

WATCH IT THERE...
ET IT E THIS WAY...
GOT HIM!
OPEN
..SAM...
GET THAT EMERGENCY AIR OVER HERE QUICK!
RIGHT!
..TH THANKS, SAM..
...CAN'T FIGURE IT...BY ALL RIGHTS HE SHOULDN'T'VE LIVED, HE HAD TO'VE BEEN AIRLESS BETTER THAN AN HOUR, HOUR AND A HALF!
BREATHING THE AIR IN HIS SUIT?
NOT FOR AN HOUR AND A HALF!
AND ONE MORE THING... THIS NAME 'SAM' HE KEEPS SAYING...
OH, YEAH! SAYS IT'S SOMEBODY, SOME KIND OF GOOD SAMARITAN HE MET OUT THERE! HA HA!
...FUNNY IDEA, ANYWAY...
YEAH .....
... FUNNY IDEA ...


epilog...
BLAM!
MAC?
HEY, WAKE UP, MAC!
IT'S ME..
...SAM!

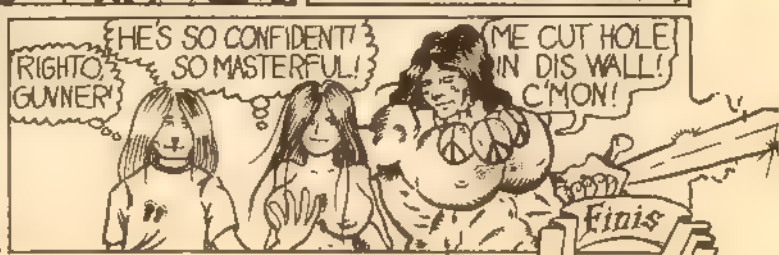
THE GREATEST SWORD AND SORCERY HERO OF THEM ALL

PATRICK DA BARBARIAN

PATRICK'S MOTHER'S SEAL OF APPROVAL

CRUM! WE WALK FER MANY MOONS! NO UDDER SIGN OF LIFE! ME POOPED!
PATRICK
BARBARIAN GROUPIE
SIDEKICK
LOOK! IT SAY SIDEKICK NEXT TO YOU! YOU WANT ME TO KICK YOU ON THE SIDE? HA-HA-HA! ME KNOW GOOD KNIFEEDGE THRUST!
SIDEKICK
HOOHAH! ME HEAR SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS! MUST BE ANOTHER BARBARIAN!

CRUM AND ICHTAR! DAT NO BARBARIAN! DAT BARBER! GIVE ME #8 BROAD SWORD, CADDY!
RIGHTO, GUVNER!
TRIM?
SNIP SNIP
BZZZ
EAT SWORD, YOU HAIRCUTTING SON OF A MALAKETIAN DWARF!
NOW ME OVERCOME BY BARBARIAN LUST! ME WANT TO FEEL YER TIT!
ZZZ...
(ALL BARBARIAN COMICS MUST HAVE A SEX PART--THE BARBARIAN COMICS CODE AUTHORITY)



NOAH D COULSON

CORBEN

BARBARIAN COMICS
CALIFORNIA COMICS, 73 E. SAN
FERNANDO ST. SAN JOSE
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Sir Real's

UNDERGROUND
COMIX CLASSIX

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3 - In The Krags of Almaniu
12 - Crom
17 - There
25 - Friend In Need
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Artists:

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Michael Whelan - 17-24
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Richard V. Corbin - 34
Ernie Polio - 35

Comments:

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